

**SECTION D DETERMINATION
CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION (CX) DETERMINATION - RFO/CX 000-91**

Proposed Action: IAG Site Characterization

Location: Within Operable Unit Boundaries under the Interagency Agreement (IAG)

Proposed by: U.S. Department of Energy Rocky Flats Office (DOE, RFO)

Description of the proposed action:

Starting at the end of May 1991 and continuing until at least December 1993, a variety of activities will take place within several Operable Units (OU 1, OU 2, OU 5) on the Rocky Flats Plant. These project activities will involve preliminary characterization for eventual closure for RCRA areas, and preliminary characterization for CERCLA areas. No permits are required except those necessary for excavation to obtain site characterization samples and use of dynamite as described below. The activities will be to characterize the OUs so that Remedial Investigation efforts and subsequent Feasibility Studies are conducted. Examples of the activities include: surface water, ground water, sediments, air, flora, and fauna samples collected for site characterization. Sampling will be conducted continually to take advantage of various growing seasons and developmental stages for flora and fauna samples. Seasonal variations data may also provide a basis for abiotic samples collected.

The samples will be collected by a variety of methods depending on the sample matrix type, but generally, will involve manually collected samples with simple hand-held portable equipment graduating to more complex collection equipment, such as drill rigs. Other instrumentation will be used to conduct various surveys (e.g., seismic or geologic characterization, mapping, species distribution, etc.)

Geologic characterization consists of a deep seismic line to be shot, partially across the north side of Rocky Flats and also to the beginning of the foothills to the west and approximately one (1) mile east of RFP adjacent to the north side of Great Western Reservoir. This will be shot as one continuous line.

The seismic line to be shot at locations offsite of RFP will be done by blasting with dynamite. The dynamite will be of relatively low charge, similar to that of a blasting cap. No significant noise is expected to be created. While on RFP, trucks equipped with vibratory equipment will be used. Permission from the respective landowners and proper permitting for the use of dynamite is currently being sought.

The categorical exclusion that applies to this action is: Site Characterization and Environmental Monitoring, including siting, construction, or operation of characterization and monitoring devices.

I have determined that the proposed action meets the requirements for the CX as defined in Section D of DOE NEPA Guidelines. Therefore, I approve the categorical exclusion of the proposed action from further NEPA review and documentation.

Date _____

Signature: _____

Title: Robert M. Nelson, Jr.
Manager, Rocky Flats Office

I have reviewed this action and my finding is that the CX is the appropriate level of NEPA Documentation.

Date _____

Signature: _____

Title: Richard J. Schassburger
Deputy Director
Environmental Management Division
NEPA Compliance Officer

ADMIN RECORD

A-0006-000015

EH-25 has reviewed this determination and has no objection.

Date: _____

Signature: _____

insert authorization number(s)

KSL:img